

Message Text

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SUBJ: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S PORT MORESBY VISIT.

REF: STATE 044632.

AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL, FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE JOINT PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED MARCH 1, 1974, IN PORT MORESBY FOR MR. ALBERT MAORI KIKI, MINISTER FOR DEFENCE, FOREIGN RELATIONS AND TRADE, AND UNITED STATES DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, MR. KENNETH RUSH:

QUOTE: THE UNITED STATES DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE, KENNETH RUSH, AND MRS. RUSH CONCLUDED A VISIT TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA THIS MORNING. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRALIA, MARSHALL GREEN, MRS. GREEN AND A GROUP OF U.S. OFFICIALS. THE VISITORS ARRIVED AT 1:00 PM ON 28 TH FEBRUARY, 1974 AND DEPARTED AT 6:40 AM ON 1ST MARCH. DURING THEIR VISIT, DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH AND AMBASSADOR GREEN WERE RECEIVED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, MR. BARRY HOLLOWAY, AND OBSERVED HOUSE BUSINESS FROM THE SPEAKER'S GALLERY. DURING THEIR VISIT TO THE HOUSE THEY HELD TALKS WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER, MR. MICHAEL SOMARE, THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE, FOREIGN RELATIONS AND TRADE, MR. ALBERT MAORI KIKI, SEVERAL OTHER MINISTERS AND LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION, MR. TEI ABAL. THE DEPUTY SECRETARY WAS ALSO GUEST OF HONOUR AT A RECEPTION OF THE EVENING OF THE 28TH FEB-

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RUARY HOSTED BY MR. MAORI KIKI, DURING WHICH A FORMAL

EXCHANGE OF GIFTS TOOK PLACE.

QUOTE: DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH AND AMBASSADOR GREEN AND THEIR WIVES WERE GUESTS OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND MRS. JOHNSON FOR THE EVENING OF 28TH FEBRUARY.

QUOTE: IN A JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE TODAY, DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH AND MR. KIKI EXPRESSED THEIR MUTUAL GRATIFICATION AT THIS FIRST CONTACT BETWEEN HIGH RANKING AMERICAN OFFICIALS AND THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA GOVERNMENT SINCE THE DECLARATION OF SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEA ON 1ST DECEMBER, 1974. THEY SAID THAT THE VISIT SIGNIFIED THE INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IN THE FUTURE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND THE INTEREST OF BOTH THE UNITED STATES AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA IN WORKING FOR GOOD RELATIONS AND HARMONY AMONGST ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE PACIFIC REGION, IN WHICH THEY BOTH HAVE AN ABIDING INTEREST. IN SAYING THIS, THEY NOTED THAT BOTH COUNTRIES PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION AND SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE.

QUOTE: DURING THEIR DISCUSSIONS, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND MINISTER FOR DEFENCE, FOREIGN RELATIONS AND TRADE REVIEWED WORLD AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS. THEY WELCOMED THE LESSENING OF TENSIONS BROUGHT ABOUT BY PROGRESS TOWARDS DETENTE AMONG THE MAJOR POWERS AND AGREED THAT THIS DEVELOPMENT GAVE OTHER COUNTRIES THE OPPORTUNITY TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THEMSELVES.

QUOTE: MR. MAORI KIKI SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO LEARN FROM DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH OF THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ESTABLISH AN AMERICAN CONSULATE-GENERAL IN PORT MORESBY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THEY AGREED THAT THIS WOULD BE A WELCOME AND CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT, IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

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QUOTE: MR. MAORI KIKI SAID HE WAS ALSO VERY PLEASED TO HEAR FROM DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH OF THE UNITED STATES' INTENTION TO PROVIDE EXCHANGE GRANTS FOR PAPUA NEW GUINEANS TO STUDY AND VISIT THE UNITED STATES. THEY WOULD ALSO COVER VISITS TO THE UNITED STATES BY PAPUA NEW GUINEAN LEADERS FOR PERIODS UP TO 30 DAYS TO OBSERVE THE AMERICAN POLITICAL PROCESS AND OTHER FACETS OF AMERICAN LIFE ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN INTERESTS AND

RESPONSIBILITIES IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

QUOTE: IN CONCLUDING, MR. MAORI KIKI AND DEPUTY
SECRETARY RUSH EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT RELATIONS
BETWEEN THEIR TWO COUNTRIES WOULD PROSPER AND EXPAND
IN THE YEARS TO COME. THE CHIEF MINISTER, MR. MICHAEL
SOMARE, IN PERSONALLY ENDORSING THEIR REMARKS, EXPRESSED
HIS OWN PLEASURE THAT THE VISIT HAD TAKEN PLACE AND WAS
A MEANS OF OPENING UP RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

END QUOTE.

GREEN

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